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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of : A. W. Chester et al
Serial No. : 09/468,452
Filed : 21 December 1999
For : Gasoline Sulfur Reduction in Fluid Catalytic Cracking
Group Art Unit : 1764
Examiner : -

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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

Petition to Revive Abandoned Application

Attention: Petitions Office

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir,

This is a petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) to revive this application which became abandoned unintentionally.

The official action requiring a reply from the applicant was the Notice to File Missing Parts, dated 1 February 2000, stating that the declaration was missing. The normal period for reply was two months after the date of the notice, expiring 1 April 2000, with extensions of time permissible under 37 CFR 1.136(a) until 1 August 2000. As the missing declaration was not filed by that date, the application is now deemed to be abandoned.

The failure to file the missing declaration in a timely manner was unintentional.

The circumstances which led to the failure to file the declaration in a timely manner are as follows. This application was filed on behalf of the applicants and the company having the rights to the invention, Mobil Oil Corporation, on 21 December 1999, through the Mobil Office of Legal Counsel, Intellectual Property Group. The transmittal letter was signed by the undersigned attorney. At this time, a corporate merger between Mobil Oil Corporation and Exxon Corporation was being effected, having shortly before received regulatory approval. One of the consequences of the merger was that the Office of Legal Counsel, Intellectual Property Group (OLC/IPG), of Mobil Oil Corporation was to be disbanded and its operations taken over by three separate legal departments. Many of

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the staff members of the OLC/IPG left the employment of the company at that time and in early 2000, the OLC/IPG had very few members left, either attorneys or support staff, to handle operations. In addition, plans to make use of the office space where the OLC/IPG was located called for OLC/IPG to move out of its location in early 2000, with a removal date of 24 March 2000 being finally set after some delays. By this date all OLC/IPG persons and effects, including files and office equipment had to be cleared from the office floor. To accommodate this clearance and to bring about the division of operations, all OLC/IPG files were boxed up and removed to other locations in early 2000. The intention was that the operations of the former OLC/IPG would be taken over at the new locations to which the files had been taken.

With this major operational dislocation, there were difficulties in ensuring that all necessary actions were taken promptly. Consolidation of operational records, including action calendars, transport and retrieval of files from storage and allocation to responsible persons took some time, extending into the summer of 2000. In the present case, the necessity to file the missing parts was overlooked and it was not until now that the failure to take timely action was noticed. The failure to make a timely filing of the declaration was therefore unintentional. Revival of the application is therefore appropriate and is requested.

The required reply consists in the filing of the declarations of the inventors, attached to this petition.

Please charge the following fees to ExxonMobil Research and Engineering Company Deposit Account No. 05-1330:

Petition, 37 CFR 1.17 (m)	\$1,240.00
Surcharge, Incomplete Application, 37 CFR 1.16(e)	<u>\$ 130.00</u>
Total	\$ 1,370.00

A duplicate copy of this petition is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



Malcolm D. Keen

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Attorney for the Applicant

December 7, 2000

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